Mississippi Secretary of State 700 North Street P. O. Box 136, Jackson, MS 39205-0136

ADMINISTRATIVE	PROCEDURES N	NOTICE FILING

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PROPO	PROPOSED ACTION ON RULES		FINAL ACTION ON RULES		
New r X Amen Repea Adopt Proposed dat	ule(s) dment to existing rule(s) il of existing rule(s) ion by reference te of adoption: //s after filing	Action taken: Adopted with no changes in text Adopted with changes Adopted by reference Withdrawn Repeal adopted as proposed Effective date: 30 days after filing Other (specify):		es ce	
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LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND RURAL WATER SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENTS BOARD

MEMORANDUM

Date:

April 23, 2012

To:

Mayors, Presidents of Boards of Supervisors, County Administrators, Presidents of

Rural Water Associations, Consulting Engineers, and Other Interested Parties

From:

James H. Craig, III, Chairman

Local Governments and Rural Water Systems Improvements Board (Board)

Subject:

Drinking Water Systems Improvements Revolving Loan Fund Program

(DWSIRLF), Draft FY-2012 Intended Use Plan (IUP) Amendment #1 to the

DWSIRLF

By means of this memorandum, the Draft FY-2012 IUP Amendment #1 is out for public notice and review. The Board has established a public comment period on this document through May 18, 2012. Accordingly, written comments on this document must be received at the address below no later than 9:00 a.m. on May 18, 2012. Also, the Board will hold a public hearing at 9:00 a.m., May 18, 2012, in the Underwood Building, room 232, in the offices of the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH)-Bureau of Public Water Supply, located at 2423 North State Street, in Jackson, to receive written or oral comments on the Draft FY-2012 IUP Amendment #1. The Board will consider all comments timely submitted, regardless of the manner of tender.

The Draft FY-2012 Priority List, which identifies projects proposed to receive loan funding, is shown on page 24 of the Draft FY-2012 IUP Amendment #1. The Draft FY-2012 Priority List was developed based on the following assumptions of available funds: (1) the National appropriation for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) is estimated to be 897 million dollars; (2) Mississippi's allotment is 1.04% of the national allotment or \$9,341,000 for the FY-2012 Standard Capitalization Grant, after deduction of Federal set-asides; (3) the required 20% state match funds for the FY-2012 Standard Capitalization Grant will be provided through general obligation bonds; and (4) there is no administrative fee.

The Draft FY-2012 IUP Amendment #1 proposes a 1.95% loan interest rate on all FY-2012 projects; does limit loan applicants to only one loan during FY-2012; limits the maximum amount for any one loan to \$5.0 million which could be exceeded by a Board vote on a case-by-case basis; and contains a list of drinking water systems improvements projects to receive loan funds from the DWSIRLF loan program that has been prioritized in accordance with criteria previously approved by the Board. Additionally, loans made from the Standard Capitalization Grant funds during FY-2012 may receive additional subsidization in the form of principal forgiveness dependent upon federally mandated grant provisions and as long as the designated money is available. The amount of principal forgiveness is based on the system's median household income (MHI) vs. the State's MHI. Details on amount to be forgiven per system are

outlined on page 16 and listed on the "Draft FY-2012 Priority List" and the "FY-2013 and After Planning List" of the IUP.

The Board urges all applicants with projects on the FY-2012 Priority List to pay particular attention to Sections A. (pages 13-16) and D. of the Priority System (page 22) which establishes guidelines for the use of funds associated with the federal appropriations and certain deadlines for FY-2011 projects. These deadlines have been established to insure that funds are reserved only for projects that are proceeding in a timely manner toward loan award.

Potential loan recipients with projects shown on the FY-2013 and After Planning List are strongly encouraged to continue working on their projects. Additional funds may become available for award should funded projects fail to meet the established deadlines within the priority system. These released funds will be made available on a first-come-first-served basis to FY-2012 "catch-up" projects which proceed and meet all requirements for loan award in FY-2012.

If the federal appropriation identifies principal forgiveness as a provisional requirement, once the amount of the "forgiveness" is achieved, the program will resume with normal loan parameters. Furthermore, it is anticipated that the appropriation will require that 20% of the funds must go to the construction of "Green Infrastructure" as defined in EPA guidelines. To achieve this requirement, projects of higher ranking may be by-passed by lower ranked projects.

If you are interested in a low interest loan for a project with potential principal forgiveness, you must **act quickly** to submit a ranking form and get started on your facilities plan in the event that additional funding is made available. The ranking form is available at the website listed below.

Copies of the Draft FY-2012 IUP Amendment #1 are being mailed to those prospective loan recipients who have projects listed on the FY-2012 Priority List or the FY-2013 and After Planning List, their consulting engineers, and those parties who have requested to have their names placed on the Priority System Mailing List. If you did not receive a copy of these documents, but would like one, copies are available for download on the MSDH website at www.healthyms.com/dwsrf, or contact Ulysses Conley at (601) 576-7518, and hard copies will be mailed to you.

We look forward to receiving your input on these documents. If you have any questions, or if we may be of assistance, please contact Ulysses Conley at (601) 576-7518.

Enclosures

